

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Immediately before paragraph [0001], add the following section headings and paragraph:

**-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This is a U.S. national stage of International Application No. PCT/DE2004/000867, filed April 24, 2004, which claims priority of German Application No. 103 19 046.5, filed April 25, 2003.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

1. **Field of the Invention** --

Immediately before paragraph [0002], add the following section heading:

-- 2. **Description of the Related Art** --

Immediately before paragraph [0007], add the following section heading:

**-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION --**

Immediately before paragraph [0027], add the following section heading:

**-- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --**

Immediately before paragraph [0031], add the following section heading:

**-- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS --**

Amend paragraph [0041] as follows:

[0041]        A separation into a retentate 32 and a permeate 33 is carried out in a membrane separation station 41. The retentate ~~[[33]]~~ 32 is heated to about 115°C by two heat exchangers 42, 43 and/or a top condenser of a first distillation column 44 and then fed into this first distillation column 44.

On page 13, delete the section heading "CLAIMS," and add the following:

-- What is claimed is: --